

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

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R 211619Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6803

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, UR, CH

SUBJ: VIKTOR LOUIS ON SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS

REF: A) MOSCOW 16539; B) LONDON 16633 (NOTAL)

1. STORY WHICH TRANSMITTED IN REFTEL (B) WAS TAKEN FROM
SIXTH EDITION OF OCTOBER 12 ISSUE OF "EVENING NEWS."

EMBASSY HAS SINCE OBTAINED CLIP FROM SEVENTH EDITION OF
SAME PAPER, WHICH CARRIED STORY WITH SOME SIGNIFICANT
MODIFICATIONS AS WELL AS MINOR CHANGES IN WORDING.

2. SEVENTH EDITION VERSION CARRIED BYLINE, "FROM VIKTOR
LOUIS IN MOSCOW." FINAL SENTENCES OF STORY ("BUT MOSCOW
BELIEVES. . . RAISE THEIR VOICES," IN SIXTH EDITION)
WERE AS FOLLOWS IN SEVENTH EDITION: "THE KREMLIN BELIEVE
THERE ARE A NUMBER OF MILITARY LEADERS IN PEKING WHO KEPT
QUIET DURING MAO'S CHAIRMANSHIP AND ARE NOW READY TO

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RENEW CLOSE RELATIONS. THIS NOTE OF OPTIMISM IS SEEN AS

A WARNING TO CHINA THAT THE OPPORTUNITY FOR CLOSER TIES

EXISTS UNDER CHAIRMAN HUA - AND SHOULD BE TAKEN UP."

3. THIS REWRITE OBVIOUSLY CHANGES THE TENOR OF THE
ENTIRE STORY, BUT WE ARE INCLINED TO ASCRIBE IT TO
JOURNALISTIC (OR WHAT PASSES FOR SUCH AT THE TABLOID
"EVENING NEWS") RATHER THAN POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS.

SPIERS

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